

FLORIDA

Between 2008 and 2012, institutions and individuals in Florida received \$10.9 million from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Florida Humanities Council for projects that explore the human endeavor and preserve our cultural heritage.

Below are some examples.

- The Florida Museum of Natural History, housed within the University of Florida, Gainesville, received a \$285,000 grant for the rehabilitation of artifacts and records associated with the **Pineland Site Complex** in southwest Florida, once home to the Calusa Indian settlement.
- With the support of four NEH grants totaling \$678,000, the Florida Humanities Council has hosted six one-week workshops for a total of 280 schoolteachers, exploring the literary and historical connections between **Zora Neale Hurston** and her hometown of Eatonville.
- A study of **public libraries in American life** between 1850 and 2000 was the subject of a \$50,400 fellowship awarded to Wayne Wiegand, a professor at Florida State University, Tallahassee.
- The local history materials included in the **Boynton Beach City Library Archives Collections** offer a slice of Florida history through the stories of the pioneers, fishermen, and farmers of this seaside community. The City of Boynton Beach received a \$6,000 grant to help preserve and maintain this collection.
- Florida public and university libraries received a total of \$22,500 in grants for expenses incurred in hosting **NEH traveling exhibitions**. The traveling exhibitions included: *Lincoln: the Constitution and the Civil War*, *John Adams Unbound*, *Pride and Passion: The African American Baseball Experience*, and *Louisa May Alcott: The Woman Behind Little Women*.
- Stetson University's **Vera Bluemner Kouba Collection**, featuring the modernist art of Oscar Bluemner, received a \$6,000 conservation grant to preserve and protect Bluemner's artworks based on the recommendations of a prior conservation assessment.
- Florida Atlantic University's Jack Miller Forum, Boca Raton, received a \$30,000 grant to organize **A Nation of Immigrants: American Democracy and Civics Education**, a four-day conference aimed at scholars, private organizations, and individuals with expertise in civics education.
- **Come Back to the Fair**, a project undertaken by researchers at the University of Central Florida, Orlando, received a start-up grant of \$30,000 to develop an interactive 3-D recreation of the New York World's Fair.
- Since 2004, **PrimeTime Reading**, a six-week program of reading, discussion, and storytelling for families administered by the Florida Humanities Council, has served close to 11,000 individuals using award-winning children's books to stimulate discussions on humanities themes.
- The **Florida Humanities Council** has produced a series of two-minute **audio programs**, available online, featuring interviews and information about people important to Florida history and culture, books that focus on Florida's past and present, and issues and events of interest to Floridians.

Talking POINTS.

NATIONWIDE

NEH supports programs and projects that contribute directly and dramatically to the cultural life and historical perspective of tens of millions of Americans.

Here are some examples.

PRESERVING THE FIRST DRAFT OF HISTORY

Nothing captures the character of a community or the spirit of an era better than its newspapers. *Chronicling America*, a partnership between NEH and the Library of Congress, is digitizing millions of pages taken from newspapers dating back to the early Republic, making it possible to search the pages online for any word or phrase—at no charge.

AMERICAN VOICES

The papers of prominent Americans are a vital part of our cultural heritage, and NEH funds many projects to assemble and preserve them, including complete sets of collected papers for ten presidents from Washington to Lincoln to Eisenhower as well as public figures such as Thomas Edison, Martin Luther King Jr., George Marshall, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and Mark Twain.

SUCCEEDING BY THE BOOK

Over the past forty-five years, scholars supported by Endowment grants have produced more than 7,000 books—including numerous classics such as Dumas Malone's *Jefferson and His Time*, James McPherson's *Battle Cry of Freedom*, and Louis Menand's *The Metaphysical Club: A Story of Ideas in America*—that have garnered scores of awards, including eighteen Pulitzer Prizes.

PAST AND PRESENT IN PIXELS

NEH investments in the digital humanities make it possible for a student to walk the corridors of the Temple of Karnak in ancient Egypt in virtual 3-D, or to visit the 1964–65 World's Fair held in New York. Spectral imaging has been used to create an online critical edition of explorer David Livingstone's previously unreadable field diary.

GENERATING PRIVATE SUPPORT

Almost \$2 billion in humanities support has been generated by the Challenge Grants program, which requires recipients to raise \$3 or \$4 in outside funds for every federal dollar they receive.

HISTORY ON SCREEN AND IN TOWN

NEH-supported films bring history alive. Twenty million Americans watched Ken Burns's *The War* (2007), and ten million saw *The Abolitionists* (2013). NEH also funds hundreds of exhibitions—not only blockbusters such as “King Tut” that make the heritage of other cultures accessible to the American public, but also smaller projects such as *Lincoln, the Constitution, and the Civil War* that reach classrooms across the country.

KEEPING TEACHERS UP-TO-DATE

Seminars, institutes, and workshops give teachers the opportunity to refresh and deepen their knowledge about the humanities through intense study. In the past three years, more than 2,100 college teachers and 7,500 schoolteachers have participated in NEH-supported programs, to the benefit of more than one million students.

REACHING ACROSS THE NATION

Last year, state humanities councils, NEH's affiliates in the fifty states, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories put on 16,800 reading and discussion programs, 6,500 literacy programs, 4,000 speakers bureau presentations, 5,400 conferences, 1,750 Chautauqua events, 24,000 media programs, and 7,300 technology, preservation, and local history events. The 56 councils also sponsored 2,300 exhibitions.